
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

PUBLIC NOTICE CLOSURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL CASE

This will serve as notice that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) is soliciting comments from the public regarding the pending closure of an environmental case at 11605 Reading Rd, Red Bluff, CA (Site).

SUBJECT SITE:

Sierra Pacific Industries, 11605 Reading Rd, Red Bluff, Tehama County

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENT PERIOD:

27 November through 27 December 2019.

SUMMARY:

The Central Valley Water Board currently regulates an environmental case located at the subject property regarding an unauthorized release of pentachlorophenol (PCP). The Site was previously owned by Louisiana-Pacific (LP) and operated as a sawmill and molding/remanufacturing facility containing a fungicide application dip system. The dip system consisted of an in-ground tank containing PCP and a hydrocarbon-based solvent. During a site inspection in 1982, Central Valley Water Board staff detected a strong odor and noted PCP or solvent stains in soil and on the north wall of the dip system. Soil samples from the dip tank area confirmed the presence of PCP.

In January 1984, an inspection report indicated empty drums of Koppers Company 4.5% solution of PCP in mineral spirits used in the dip system at the site. During a June 1985 inspection, LP personnel informed Central Valley Water Board staff of a drum, used as overflow storage for the dip system, that had been removed and burned. The June 1985 inspection report described the removal of the drum as an inadequate corrective action. As a result, Central Valley Water Board staff requested additional investigation at the Site.

In February 1986, well samples collected from a residence approximately 0.5 miles downgradient of the Site indicated PCP concentrations of 11 micrograms per liter (µg/L). LP installed groundwater monitoring wells and conducted subsequent soil and groundwater monitoring in June 1986. Copper was detected in soil samples ranging from 56.5 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) to 101.0 mg/kg. Analytical results indicated

PCP in groundwater below the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 1 µg/L. PCP was not detected in soil samples.

The Site was sold to Fiberboard Company in 1990, then to Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) in 1995. SPI installed soil borings and conducted additional sampling in April 2000. Analytical results indicated the presence of PCP in soil samples near the dip tank area. Groundwater was not encountered. As a result, SPI removed the concrete-filled dip tank and 800 cubic yards of contaminated soil in June 2000. PCP was detected in one confirmation sample. A final report was not submitted to the Central Valley Water Board.

In September 2012, Central Valley Water Board staff requested any existing additional documents regarding the investigation. In response, SPI submitted the "Use of Excavated Soils Onsite" report, dated 14 September 2000 and addressed to Tehama County Environmental Health Department, identifying 750 cubic yards of soil requiring disposal at a Class II landfill and 130 cubic yards of soil that SPI intended to spread on a vacant area of the property. The location of the spread soil is unknown.

In October 2017, Central Valley Water Board staff requested a work plan and sensitive receptor survey to determine potential groundwater impacts at the Site. In response, VESTRA Resources, Inc. submitted a Technical Memorandum dated 22 June 2018 on behalf of SPI that presented modeling data estimating that the extent of the PCP plume was limited and predicting that PCP concentrations in the two downgradient wells were below the MCL. Central Valley Water Board staff requested verification of these findings. Ten wells in the vicinity of the Site were sampled in January 2019 and analyzed for PCP and trichlorophenol (TCP). All well samples were non-detect for PCP and TCP.

Based on the available information, including analytical results and corrective action, Central Valley Water Board staff is recommending that the SCP case at the subject property be closed.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

General information regarding the Site can be obtained from the [State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker website at:](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=SL0610370411)
(https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=SL0610370411)

All interested agencies, groups and persons wishing to comment on the pending case closure must provide these comments in writing. The comments should be submitted by **27 December 2019** to the Central Valley Water Board's office at 364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205, Redding, CA 96002. For information, please call Jason Schroeder at (530) 224-4788 or contact by e-mail at Jason.Schroeder@waterboards.ca.gov.